providing for regulation of tenancy and provision of security of tenure to tenants and share croppers; (C) imposition of ceilings on agricultural holdings and distribution of surplus land to landless poor; (D) consolidation of fragmented holdindgs and (E) updating of land records. There has been no change in policy.

(b) The progress in the implementation of land reforms has also not been unsatisfactory. As a result of abolition of intermediary tenures 20 million cultivators were bought in direct contact with the State and large proportion of the estimated 6 million hectares of waste, fallow and other classes of land vesting in the State has been distributed among the landless and marginal land-holders. Various tenancy reforms measures have helped an estimated 7.7 million tenants getting ownership rights over almost 5.6 million hectares of land besides those who have gained protection against other forms of exploitation. As a result of the implementation of the ceiling laws an area of 73.38 lakh acres has been declared surplus of which 44.32 lakh acres have been distributed to 41.01 lakh beneficiaries. Under land consolidation programmes 1391.67 lakh acres are reported to have been consolidated so far. Land records are updated in most States by undertaking periodic surveys and settlement for which arrangements differ from State to State according to the land records system prevalent there, except in some States/U.Ts. which are yet to establish such a system. However, a lot of work remains to be done. Among the reasons generally attributed to the slow implementation and insufficient number of courts and inability of rural poor to fight cases, lack of awarencess and organisation amongst the rural poor tenants and share-croppers, lack of proper orientation of law and order machinery in providing protection to rural poor against the harassment by vested interests.

(c) Progress of implementation of ceiling laws was reviewed in the conferences of Revenue Ministers in 1985 and 1986 and at different levels on other occasions also. In the consensus emerging from these conferences States were requested to consider various measures for more effective implementation of land ceiling laws which include, among others, consideration of lowering of ceiling limits, inclusion of major sons in the family, stricter definition of personal cultivation, bringing lands with religious and charitable institutions within the purview of ceiling laws, setting up tribunals under Article 323-B of the Constitution for expeditious disposal of pending cases etc.

(d) and (e) States have enacted their own ceiling legislations. Since land is a State subject it is for State Governments to consider the above consensus and take suitable action in the matter.

Travel agencies in the Country

1731. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of travel agencies, registered and unregistered; which are functioning at present in the country;

(b) what is the number of those agencies which have registered themselves with Regional Passport Offices for the purpose of providing employment to prospective Indian Labour abroad; and

(c) what is the number of those agencies which are working for manpower employment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) 451 Travel Agencies are registered with the Ministry of External Affairs to deal in passport matters with the Regional Passport Offices. Information about

unregistered agencies is not maintained.

(b) and (c) The agencies registered with Regional Passport Offices are not empowered to employ prospective Indian labour abroad. However, there are 1258 Recruiting Agencies registered with Ministry of Labour who are authorised to recruit Indian labour for overseas employment.

हिन्दी भाषा का प्रसार

1732. **श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव :** क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि "क" और "ख" क्षेत्रों में राजभाषा अधिनियम की पूर्णत: अवहेलना करते हुए रोमान लिपि के कम्प्यूटरों, टेलेक्स मशीनों और टेली-प्रिंटरों जैसे दर्जनों आधुनिक यंत्रों के आगमन और अबाधित प्रयोग के फलस्वरूप हिन्दी के प्रसार का कार्य वर्षों पीछे पड़ गया है और जहां भी टेलेक्स मशीनें लगाई गई हैं वहां से एक भी तार हिन्दी में नहीं भेजा गया है ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि "क" क्षेत्रों में अंग्रेजी के टंकण यंत्रों आदि की तुलना में देवनागरी के टंकण यंत्रों, टंककों और आशुलिपिकों की संख्या नहीं के बराबर है जबकि उनकी संख्या 50 : 50 होनी चाहिए थी ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं और हिन्दी भाषा के प्रसार के लिए क्या नए कदम उठाये गये हैं ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में कृषि और सहकारिता विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री श्याम लाल यादव) : (क) जी नहीं । कम्प्यूटरों, टैलेक्स मशीनों, टैलीप्रिन्टरों आदि जैसे रोमन इलैक्ट्रानिक उपकरणों के इस्तेमाल से राजभाषा नीति को विभिन्न अपेक्षाओं के अनुपालन में रुकावट नहीं आती है । जैसे, यह मंत्रालय अपने सरकारी काम-काज में द्विभाषी इलैक्ट्रानिक संयंत्रों का इस्तेमाल करने की जरूरत के बारे में पूरी तरह से सचेत है । इस मंत्रालय में उपलब्ध 13 इलैक्ट्रानिक संयंत्रों में से दो वर्ड प्रोसेसर द्विभाषी अर्थात् अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में हैं । जब कभी आवश्यक समझा जाता है तार हिन्दी में भेजे जाते हैं ।

(ख) और (ग) "क" क्षेत्र में स्थित कार्यालयों में देवनागरी टाइपराइटरों, हिन्दी टाइपिस्टों और हिन्दी आशुलिपिकों की संख्या बढ़ाने के लिए सभी प्रयास किए जा रहे हैं । राजभाषा अधिनियम के उपबन्धों, उसके अन्तर्गत बनाये गए नियमों तथा राजभाषा विभाग द्वारा समय-समय पर जारी किए गए विभिन्न प्रशासनिक अनुदेशों का अनुपालन करके मंत्रालय और उसके सम्बद्ध और अधीनस्थ कार्यालयों स्वशासी निकायों, सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के उपक्रमों आदि में हिन्दी के प्रयोग को लोकप्रिय बनाने के लिए भी उपाय किये जा रहे हैं ।

News broadcast by A.I.R., Madras regarding Cease Fire in Sri Lanka

1733. SHRI GOPALSAMY:
SHRI T. R. BALU:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a news bulletin was broadcast by A.I.R., Madras on 18th January 1988 to the effect that an appeal was made by the then Tamil Nadu Chief Minister to the Prime Minister of India to declare a cease fire in the I.P.K.F. operations in Sri Lanka for the Christmas; and

(b) whethere it is also a fact that a news bulletin was broadcast on the same day that the Tamil Nadu Government had made a denial of such a move?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L.